

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully studied the nonfinal Examiner's Action mailed April 22, 2004. The amendment appearing above and these explanatory remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the Action. Accordingly, this important patent application is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicant responds to the outstanding Action by centered headings that correspond to the centered headings employed by the Office, to ensure full response on the merits to each finding of the Office.

Detailed Action

1. Our office has not yet received a corrected filing receipt as requested. The Office is correct; this application is a national stage application of a PCT filing. The present application is a U.S. National Stage application claiming the benefit of prior filed International Application, serial number PCT/RU01/00247, filed June 21, 2001, which International Application claims a priority date of March 27, 2001 based on prior filed Russian Application serial number RU2001/107867. A certified copy of the Russian national application is enclosed herewith.

Information Disclosure Statement

2 & 3. Applicant respectfully acknowledges the statements presented by the Office in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Office Action.

Drawings

4. The drawings stand objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "2" has been used to designate both "valve" and "canal" (see [0020]). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings were required by the Office.

In response to this objection, Applicant has amended the specification to overcome the requirement. The original designation of element "2" for two different elements arose from an error in translation. The grammar has been corrected to overcome this problem. Element "2" now only designates the "valve." It is therefore believed that corrected drawings are no longer required.